

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An injectable anesthetic composition consisting ~~essentially~~ of:

a microemulsion consisting of a mixture of 2,6-diisopropylphenol, polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether, ~~and~~ an aqueous medium, and comprising a tonicity adjustment agent in an amount sufficient to obtain an isotonic condition corresponding to blood plasma, wherein the 2,6-diisopropylphenol is present in an amount of about 1 to 2% by weight of the composition, the polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate is present in an amount of about 5 to 10% by weight of the composition, and wherein the tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether is present in an amount of about 10 to 25% by weight of the composition;

a surfactant consisting of a bile salt and lecithin, wherein the surfactant is present in an amount of about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the composition; and

a member selected from the group consisting of liquid excipients, pH regulators, thickening agents, absorbents, light stabilizers, crystallization inhibitors, complexing agents, antioxidants, antiseptics, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the composition exhibits a transmittance at 660 nm of greater than about 90%.

Claims 2-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the bile salt is a member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable salts of cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, ursocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, isoursodeoxycholic acid, lagodeoxycholic acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycodeoxycholic acid, glycochenodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 8-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the tonicity adjustment agent is a member selected from the group consisting of trehalose, glucose, fructose, glycerol,

sorbitol, mannitol, sucrose, xylitol, sodium chloride, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 15-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the liquid excipient is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of ethanol, propylene glycol, glycerol, triethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the pH regulator is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of citric acid, acetate, phosphoric acid, ascorbic acid, gluconic acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid, and salts thereof, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the thickening agent is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of methylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the complexing agent is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of EDTA and salts thereof, phosphate, nitrate, acetate, citrate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the antioxidant is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, sulfate compounds, L-cysteine, thiodipropionic acid, thiolactic acid, monothioglycerol, propyl galate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the antiseptic is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of methyl *p*-oxybenzoate, propyl *p*-oxybenzoate, PHB ester, chlorobutanol, benzyl alcohol, butanol, butane-1,3-diol, chlorohexidin salts, benzoic acid and its salts, sorbic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 25-60 (canceled)